

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

International Patent Application of:

Yasutoshi OKUNO et al.

Serial No. 10/032,564

Filed: January 2, 2002

For: METHOD FOR FABRICATING
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

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Examiner: Michelle Estrada

Group Art Unit: 2823

Confirmation No. 5824

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180 to deposit account no. 19-2380 to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)


The undersigned certifies that either (1) each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in connection with a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this statement, or (2) no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Enclosed is a copy of a Notice of Reasons of Rejection dated December 2, 2003, for a corresponding Japanese patent application together with the references cited therein.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

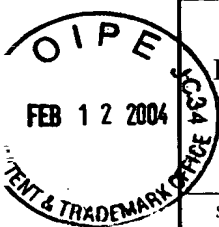
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380. (740819-725)

Respectfully submitted,
NIXON PEABODY LLP

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/032,564
				Filing Date	January 2, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Yasutoshi OKUNO
				Art Unit	2823
				Examiner Name	Michelle Estrada
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	740819-725

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 10-209399 A	08-07-1998	Kin et al.		Abstract
		JP 2000-357783 A	12-26-2000	Fukuzumi		Abstract
		JP 2001-135799 A	05-18-2001	Okudaira		Abstract
		JP 2001-144270 A	05-25-2001	Ota et al.		Abstract

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		NOTICE OF REASONS OF REJECTION DATED DECEMBER 2, 2003	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.